

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON Tuesday, February 19, 2013, AT 6:30 p.m. IN THE Second Floor Conference Room.

THE PROPOSED AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:

Closed session as provided by Section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR

BY Paige Barfield

**SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM – February 19, 2013**

Council met in special session on this date with the following members present: Mr. Norris, Mr. Huja, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Smith, Ms. Galvin.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Mr. Norris, Council voted, (Ayes: Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Smith; Noes: None), to meet in closed session for discussion and consideration of the salary for the City Manager, as authorized by Va. Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (1).

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Smith, Council certified by the following vote (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Ms. Smith, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos; Noes: None), that to the best of each Council Member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered in the closed session.

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS – February 19, 2013**

Council met in regular session on this date with the following members present: Ms. Smith, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja

**AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS**

Mr. Huja invited Ms. Jennie Thollander from Region 10 to present on the VSA Arts program. Ms. Thollander thanked Council for their financial support this year. Ms. Carol Hanson read her poem entitled "Anger" for Council.

Ms. Szakos read a proclamation in honor of African American History Month.

Ms. Smith announced a celebration of Black History Month on Sunday, February 24 at the Carver Recreation Center from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Norris read a proclamation for The Big Read event during the month of March. The kick-off will take place on February 23 at the Free Speech Wall, and the book for the month is The Joy Luck Club, by Amy Tan. Ms. Jackie Lichtman was present to accept the proclamation. Go to [www.jmrl.org/bigread](http://www.jmrl.org/bigread) for more information on events throughout the month.

Ms. Galvin announced the special election on Tuesday, April 2 for the Office of the Treasurer. Call 970-3250 for more information.

There will be a meeting on February 25 at 6:00 p.m. at City Space about the McIntire Park Bike/Pedestrian Bridge. For more information, call Chris Gensic at 970-3656 or email [gensic@charlottesville.org](mailto:gensic@charlottesville.org).

Ms. Szakos announced the next Our Town Charlottesville meeting at Clark Elementary School from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. for the Belmont/Carlton neighborhoods.

Mr. Huja asked Council if they supported holding another public hearing on the stormwater fee this evening. Ms. Szakos said she supports public hearings generally, but feels we have had plenty of input on this matter. Ms. Galvin said she is not inclined to have another public hearing. Mr. Norris said there is no rush, and we should give citizens another chance to weigh in. Ms. Smith said she supports one and wishes we would have one on the marijuana agenda topic as well. Mr. Jones said we would need to advertise for a public hearing and hold it at a future meeting. Ms. Galvin asked Mr. Jones to review the public engagement efforts that have been made during this process. Council decided to allow an additional 30 minutes for public comment on the stormwater fee during matters by the public

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Jeff Fogel, 215 Spruce St., said there should be a public hearing on the marijuana issue. He said the proposed ordinance is a waste of time, and Council should reject it. He presented a modified proposal to Council. He said it is more important to address the issue of the use of marijuana by young people. He said jail time is barbaric.

Ms. Jen Downey, 1014 Locust Ln., said she is here representing Walk Charlottesville. She offered suggestions for additional language regarding updates to the sidewalk manual.

Mr. Dan Purdy, 776 Prospect Ave., encouraged Council to pass the marijuana ordinance. He said anything that protects marijuana users from heavy-handed punishment is a step in the right direction. The level of stigma and guilt should not be applicable to marijuana users.

Ms. Carol O'Connor, 1113 Monticello Rd., said she attended the meeting about Belmont Bridge at JMRL last week. What was presented as fact at the meeting was not very well vetted, and there was not support for where the information came from.

Mr. Ed McCann, Lynchburg resident, Executive Director of Virginia NORML Statewide Organization, said he supports the new ordinance minus the additions made by the City Attorney

that would continue to put people in jail for marijuana use. Just because something is legal does not mean it is good for you, and this gives parents an opportunity to talk to their children about inappropriate marijuana use.

Mr. Jordan McNeish, 2560 Beasley Ln., encouraged Council to reject the ordinance as written, because it does not allow users to be diverted from the criminal justice system.

Ms. Paula Klockner said this small change in the marijuana ordinance would have impacted her life greatly. She described her experience with punishments imposed on her as a result of a minor marijuana possession and the negative impact these punishments have had on her quality of life.

Mr. Richard Kennedy, 6009 River Dr., Lorton, Virginia, said it was clear forty years ago that marijuana was a far less dangerous drug than alcohol or tobacco, and epidemiological studies have shown no difference between smokers and non-smokers. Both local experts on this topic have recommended that it be legalized.

Mr. Lewis A. Martin, III, 923 Marshall St., member of Annette Baptist Church, said he is primarily concerned with the funding method of the stormwater management program. He said he cannot deduct this if it is charged as a fee instead of a tax. You would get more user fees by implementing a real estate tax instead.

Mr. Graye Jones, 808 Rives St., Pastor at Faith Baptist Church, said he had not received any notice of this meeting. He said this fee would be 6% of their total income, and imposing this fee would inhibit their ability to perform many of the community services they provide now. The City should not be able to touch the tithes of their membership.

Mr. Jim Snead, 1570 Old Ballard Rd., member at First Presbyterian, said churches are tax-exempt for a reason. Also, churches provide services the City cannot provide for less money. There was not enough notification to local churches. Please do not impose this fee, which will put undue financial burden on local churches.

Major Allen Johnson, 2605 Huntington Rd., said the Salvation Army has served many citizens this year, and this fee will have an adverse effect on their organization.

Mr. Massa Kollie, 515 Rockland Ave., said First Baptist Church has been very helpful to his family. This fee will impact how the church can help refugee families such as his.

Ms. Robbie Savage, Executive Director of the Rivanna Conservation Society, said she is speaking on behalf of several non-profit organizations that support the stormwater fee. She said our infrastructure has been neglected for decades, and we need to update our underground pipes if we want to be a first class city.

Mr. Dan McCreight, 735 Park St., member of First Baptist Church, said a 40% waiver cap does not provide incentive to make improvements or allow for pre-existing improvements. Now

is the worst time to increase negative economic conditions for non-profit organizations. He asked Council to test churches on their commitment to environmental stewardship.

Mr. Jeff Kreseck, Chair of the Board for Love Inc., explained the services his organization provides for 200-300 community members on a shoestring budget. He said 30% of their funding comes from local churches, and the impact of this fee will have an immediate impact.

Mr. Bruce Wardell, 112 4th St., said this should not be framed by the logic of charging a fee for anyone who uses this infrastructure because the community benefits by non-profit services on a daily basis without paying for it. He asked Council not to adopt the ordinance until it reflects the value non-profits provide to the City. Churches are not saying they will not meet their environmental requirements.

Mr. Richard Lloyd, County resident, said it is not fair to treat the poor and wealthy equally when charging this fee. There is a difference between taxing on assessed value and assessing a tax based on the size of their roof.

Ms. Vera Mason, Lexington Ave., said she is opposed to non-profit organizations being required to pay for stormwater run-off. She reviewed the many services First Baptist Church provides to the community.

Mr. John Heyden, Westwood Dr., said it is fair for everyone to pay their fair share of the fee, including non-profits and low income citizens.

## **COUNCIL RESPONSE**

Ms. Galvin said Council is well-aware that there was some confusion regarding the Belmont Bridge, and they are working to address this.

Ms. Szakos said she agreed the Belmont Bridge issue needs more vetting.

Mr. Norris said residents of public housing are not in fact getting by in free rent, unlike Mr. Heyden's claim.

## **CONSENT AGENDA\* (Items removed from the consent agenda will be considered at the end of the regular agenda.)**

Mr. Huja said the West Main Streetscape report will be pulled for discussion after the Stormwater report.

Mr. Norris clarified that he is not voting in support of item e regarding the Bypass Interchange at McIntire Road.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Galvin, the consent agenda was approved with the exceptions noted above. (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja; Noes: None.)

a. **Minutes for February 4**

[Minutes for Feb 4](#)

- b. **APPROPRIATION:**  
**Contribution for Urban Forest Improvements and Invasive Species Removal in Riverview Park - \$4,000 (2nd of 2 readings)**

[Contribution for Urban Forest Improvements](#)

- c. **APPROPRIATION:**  
**Contribution from the American Heritage Foundation for the Charlottesville Fire Department Wellness and Fitness Program - \$5,000 (2nd of 2 readings)**

[Contribution from the American Heritage Foundation for the Charlottesville Fire Department](#)

- d. **APPROPRIATION:**  
**Appropriation of Visitor's Bureau Fund Balance - \$100,000 (2nd of 2 readings)**

[Appropriation of Visitor's Bureau Fund Balance](#)

- e. **APPROPRIATION:**  
**Route 250 Bypass Interchange at McIntire Road - Appropriate \$2,598,762.81 and Transfer \$71,090.07 (2nd of 2 readings)**

[Route 250 Bypass Interchange at McIntire Road](#)

- f. **APPROPRIATION:**  
**Albemarle County Reimbursement for the Fire Protection Assessments Project - \$8,241.78 (1st of 2 readings)**

[Albemarle County Reimbursement for the Fire Protection Assessments Project](#)

- g. **APPROPRIATION:**  
**Disproportionate Minority Contact in Juvenile Justice - \$55,556 (1st of 2 readings)**

[Disproportionate Minority Contact in Juvenile Justice](#)

- h. **RESOLUTION: (*Pulled*)**  
~~**West Main Streetscape Improvements - \$350,000 Fund Transfer (1st of 1 reading)**~~

- i. **RESOLUTION:**  
**Zoning Text Initiation - Parking Lots and Garages (1st of 1 reading)**

[Zoning Text Initiation - Parking Lots and Garages](#)

- j. **ORDINANCE:**  
**Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Cost Allocation Agreement between City and County (2nd of 2 readings)**

[Emergency Communications Center \(ECC\) Cost Allocation Agreement](#)

**REPORT / ORDINANCE\* Classifying Marijuana Possession as a Class IV Misdemeanor (1st of 2 readings)**

[Classifying Marijuana Possession as a Class IV Misdemeanor](#)

Mr. Brown presented to Council on the ordinance classifying marijuana possession as a Class IV misdemeanor. He added language classifying second offenses as a Class I misdemeanor to make it consistent with state law, per the City code. There will be no sixth amendment right to court appointed counsel because there must be a possibility of incarceration to provide such a service. Mr. Norris said that does not mean the City could not choose to provide that counsel. Mr. Brown said there is not enabling authority to pay for such a service.

Ms. Smith asked what qualifies a citizen as indigent. Mr. Dave Chapman, Commonwealth Attorney, said there is a formula used on the basis of income and other factors to determine if someone is indigent or not. It is a generous standard for appointing counsel to those with limited means.

Mr. Norris asked whose decision is it whether to prosecute under state or local ordinance. Mr. Chapman said a policy could be chosen locally to do it one way or the other, and it could be determined by the Commonwealth Attorney's office, the police department, or other entities enabled under local ordinance.

Ms. Smith asked when a person caught with a small amount of marijuana would have their license taken away. Mr. Chapman said most people accept a 30 day suspended sentence in lieu of having probation, and they do not pay a fine.

Ms. Smith asked if there was a quantity associated with the Class IV misdemeanor. Mr. Chapman said a half ounce or greater creates possession with intent to distribute. Ms. Szakos said that is not a very large amount. Ms. Smith asked how much discretion is built into this at the arrest point, because that is where we see disproportionate application in the judicial system. Mr. Chapman said this is controllable by the policies and procedures implemented by the police department.

Ms. Smith asked if we can pass an ordinance that does not specify that a second arrest will be a Class I misdemeanor. Mr. Chapman said he does not know of an impediment to doing so. Mr. Chapman said making possession cases is not a priority for law enforcement. Ms. Smith said

the consequences are serious. Mr. Chapman said there are reasons for this. It is important not to encourage young people to use this substance in any respect.

Mr. Chapman said it is important to get an answer to questions that are not certain before adopting an ordinance.

Ms. Smith said she supports moving as close as we can to making this a very low impact offense since there is no option to go to legalization.

Ms. Szakos said she thinks there are very few things aside from violent crimes for which prison is the right answer. The ordinance as written would not be much different from what we have now. She said the ordinance as presented is not compelling enough to pass.

Ms. Galvin said she believes we are following best practices in many ways with how we deal with the issue of marijuana and substance use through the existing criminal justice system. Low risk offenders should not be put in a pool with high risk offenders. Our lawmakers and enforcers should be spending time appropriately. We are concerned that people are being imprisoned when they really need substance abuse treatment, education, and health care. By creating a local ordinance that conflicts with our state ordinance, we may create a law of unintended consequences. We are working very well and hard to create a just system, and dealing with one small ordinance may not do what everyone believes it will do.

Mr. Norris said we are trying to create an ordinance that would reflect our opinion that marijuana is not a high priority for law enforcement. Our policy and our message should mirror that, as it is already generally our practice. He cited New York City's recent decision and said we should adopt that as official City policy.

Mr. Norris asked Mr. Brown where the \$250 fee number came from. Mr. Brown said this is according to the state's classification of misdemeanors. Mr. Norris asked if the locality can set that fine lower as a matter of policy. Mr. Brown said he would not endorse any ordinance that was not consistent with state law, and it is generally up to the judge to determine the fine.

Mr. Norris said he supports us entering into an agreement with the public defender's office in exchange for representing anyone who is prosecuted under the local ordinance. We should provide clarification for the DMV's policy on license removal. We should clarify what the policy would be for a local offense versus a state offense. We need to shift our view to public health and reexamine our local resources for drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

Mr. Huja said this effects many lives and is a legal issue as well as a policy issue. We are not incarcerating citizens in Charlottesville for a first offense. This is a good policy and should continue. No other purpose would be served by passing a revised ordinance at this time.

Ms. Szakos said she would like to put the New York City policy before our Police Chief for consideration. This seems to be our practice, and we may want to codify it.

Ms. Galvin said we need more information about public health, and the criminal justice network is willing to discuss this matter. We should have an engaged work session at the end of the spring regarding these issues. Ms. Szakos said she is not opposed to a work session, but we may rather go individually to involved organizations for discussion. Ms. Galvin said those organizations have suggested a work session to encourage a thorough engagement.

Mr. Huja said he supports discussing the New York policy with the Police Chief and the Commonwealth Attorney in order to institutionalize what we are already doing.

Mr. Norris moved that Council adopt Mr. Fogel's original proposal making possession a Class IV misdemeanor and contracting with the public defender's office.

Mr. Brown read the original proposed ordinance from Mr. Fogel. Mr. Norris suggested adding language about providing access to a public defender.

Ms. Smith seconded the ordinance.

Mr. Huja, Ms. Szakos, and Ms. Galvin said they would not support it. Mr. Norris withdrew his motion so that staff can explore other avenues, such as applying provisions locally.

Mr. Norris and Mr. Huja supported the work session request.

**[REPORT: ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION- Stormwater Utility Ordinance \(2nd of 2 readings\) and Resolution Establishing the Water Resources Protection Program \(WRPP\) Advisory Committee \(1st of 1 reading\)](#)**

**[Stormwater Utility Ordinance](#)**

Ms. Riddervold presented to Council on the Stormwater Utility proposal. She gave background on the process over the last few years and reviewed the WRPP Advisory Committee's findings.

Ms. Galvin asked about breaking up jurisdictions into equal pieces based on a drainage plan. Mr. Norris said we have taken substantial action in the last five years, even though we have not yet solved the problem. Ms. Galvin said there is a benefit to doing this quickly because of the low-cost bond environment, and it would save more money overall. At the rate that we are replacing our pipes, it would take over forty years to replace high-priority areas. Ms. Riddervold said this program would be reviewed annually.

Mr. Huja asked Mr. Brown if state enabling legislation would authorize an exemption for non-profit property owners. He said there is no such enabling legislation. Exemptions do not recognize non-profit status when assessing property owners. Mr. Huja asked if it is possible to collect the fees and then offer a rebate to non-profit organizations. Mr. Brown said there is not authority to make donations to churches.



Ms. Galvin asked if we can provide grants to churches for retrofitting. Ms. Riddervold said this is possible and would need to be built into the budget. The program proposal currently provides for incentive assistance.

Mr. Norris asked if it is possible to create a more liberalized incentive program for churches and non-profits. Ms. Riddervold said those approaches may be possible, but they would have to occur outside the utility process.

Ms. Szakos said this is a reasonable way of measuring how much people use infrastructure and asking them to pay for it. Non-profits and churches receive many services without paying for them, and taking money from one pot to add to another does not seem fair.

Ms. Smith asked if the user fee was determined to be more equitable than a real estate tax increase when the research on this first began. Ms. Riddervold said they were directed by the governing body at that time to research fee assessments instead of a real estate tax. Ms. Smith said City taxpayers already subsidize non-profits and churches, and this contribution should be recognized. The total amount of contribution from churches is actually small in comparison, and the impact on residential payers would be doubled if we do not impose user fees on churches.

Ms. Galvin said by changes in user patterns, we can bring our fees down, and this is an important aspect to this plan. Without the utility aspect, there is no incentive to change. Ms. Galvin asked to change "any person" to "any property owner". Ms. Riddervold said the word "person" was intended to provide flexibility. The word "person" does also indicate a corporate person.

Ms. Galvin said we need to examine what going up to an 80% credit incentive program would mean. Ms. Riddervold said we need to do more research on this point. Mr. Huja said he supports a minimum of 50% for incentives. Ms. Smith said the more you allow credit for people who have the resources to implement conservation techniques, the more it will negatively impact low income residents. Ms. Szakos said you could go beyond 40% by reducing the amount of impervious surface on your property.

Ms. Szakos moved to pass the ordinance as written. Ms. Smith seconded.

Mr. Huja asked why appeals are directed to staff only, and not to the advisory committee (Section 10-108). Ms. Szakos said we changed the language because going through staff made the process less onerous.

Ms. Szakos requested item h under appeals to say this structure for appeals will be reassessed at the end of the first year and evaluated for potential modifications.

Mr. Norris said he opposes this proposal and believes the level of funding and the people this will affect comes at a time of already tough fiscal choices. It is not a good time to pull money out of the pockets of our property owners. He asked if there was support on Council for directing staff to come back with a proposed credit/incentive system that would allow for a full

waiver for tax-exempt properties that are taking steps to remediate stormwater on their properties.

Ms. Szakos said if we continue to pay for stormwater from our general fund, we will detract from our other services. Ms. Galvin said she does not think of this as a tax, but as a user fee. This is an important piece of infrastructure. Ms. Smith said she will push for compensation for our churches and non-profits, as well as low-income residents, by taking away the PILOT program, which is an extremely regressive tax.

Mr. Huja said he supports the resolution as presented. He asked that staff examine increasing the incentive option.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Smith, the ordinance passed. (Ayes: Ms. Szakos, Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja, Ms. Galvin; Noes: Mr. Norris.)

Ms. Galvin said she wants to be sure there will be adequate representation from non-profits and churches. Ms. Smith asked to add "at least" seven members to the committee. Ms. Galvin said there should be a cap to the total number. Ms. Smith said the advisory committee should take a role in researching credits. Ms. Riddervold suggested a stakeholder group be convened to examine that specific issue, separate from the advisory committee. Ms. Smith said this should be formed as soon as possible.

Mr. Huja said an appeal process should be vetted through a body other than staff. Ms. Szakos said we could make this decision at the end of the first year. Mr. Huja said this should go through a citizen body before it goes to court. Ms. Smith said this may be a good idea, but she is not sure we need to do it now.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Galvin, the resolution to form the Water Resources Protection Program Advisory Committee, with the addition of the language "between seven and eleven committee members", passed. (Ayes: Ms. Szakos, Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Norris; Noes: None.)

### **RESOLUTION: West Main Streetscape Improvements - \$350,000 Fund Transfer (1st of 1 reading)**

#### West Main Streetscape Improvements

Mr. Tolbert presented to Council. He clarified that it is safe to take money out of the Old Lynchburg Road (OLR) project, as we have a 40% contingency built in for the project.

Mr. Huja said he supports the idea of the design. He said he agreed that there is enough money in the account. He said \$350,000 is high, and we should start with \$250,000 instead. Ms. Galvin asked that the RFP not specify a price. Mr. Huja agreed.

Ms. Galvin this is an interesting hybrid between drawing and construction documents.

Ms. Keller, Planning Commission chair, was invited to speak. She said this will benefit the City and complement existing efforts to fill the gap between our historic downtown and our vibrant hospital/University area.

Ms. Smith asked why we need another study. Ms. Keller said this is an update to bring all the previous threads together and responds to conditions we see at this point in time. Ms. Szakos said how we can know something will happen with this study when previous studies have not produced action. Ms. Smith said she is uncomfortable taking \$100,000 out of undergrounding utilities. Mr. Tolbert said we have to have the engineering work done to underground them, and this is what the funds are for.

Mr. Norris said he liked Ms. Galvin's addendum. He asked if we could at least commit to utilizing contingency funds to make the OLR project whole if necessary. Staff agreed to this.

On motion by Mr. Norris, seconded by Ms. Szakos, the resolution passed. (Ayes: Ms. Smith, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja; Noes: None.)

### **REPORT / RESOLUTION: Council Meeting Guidelines (1st of 1 reading)**

Mr. Huja deferred this report until the next Council meeting.

### **REPORT: ADA Curb Ramp Inventory and Pedestrian Initiatives**

[ADA Curb Ramp Inventory and Pedestrian Initiatives](#)

[ADA Curb Ramp Inventory and Pedestrian Initiatives PPT](#)

Ms. Poncy presented to Council. She reviewed the proposed ADA transition plan, including curb ramp prioritization. She reviewed best practices and proposed future standards and upcoming activities for the remainder of FY 2012.

Ms. Galvin asked that improvements not be made before streetscape plans come through. Mr. Norris said our default position should be to install buffers, recognizing there are circumstances where that may not be possible.

Mr. Huja said quality of design and materials are important for the long term benefits. He said patching the downtown mall with asphalt looks tacky. Mr. Tolbert said this was a temporary fix and is not the long-term solution.

Ms. Szakos thanked staff and Mr. Herndon for his work on ADA compliance.

## **REPORT: Advocates for a Sustainable Albemarle Population (ASAP) Report**

### Advocates for a Sustainable Albemarle Population (ASAP) Report

Mr. David Shreve presented a summary of the analysis of the fiscal costs and potential benefits of growth in Charlottesville and Albemarle County. He reviewed results of the ASAP report. Mr. Craig Evans, author of the report, could not be here this evening.

No growth of any type will offer any fiscal advantage to City residents.

Mr. Jack Marshall, president of ASAP, said one conclusion is that we need to revisit long-held assumptions that growth is good. This is only true up to a point, and most American localities have already reached that point. Albemarle and Charlottesville can benefit from developing thoughtful population policies.

Ms. Smith asked if the defense department brought in people from outside. Mr. Shreve said that he can only speak anecdotally, but they did bring in many employees, which may be an anomaly.

Ms. Galvin questioned the land use categories. The amount of generated revenue they report seems extremely low. Mr. Peter Katz, Director of Smart Growth, calculated that a mixed use building downtown brought in \$80,000 in property tax revenue. There are clear benefits to being compact and building within our existing means, which she did not hear from the report.

Mr. Shreve said this was targeted mostly at the county and its practices. Cities are efficient ways of organizing people, but cities are also dependent on places that are not cities for ecosystem services, so it is best to focus regionally. He said there is no doubt there are still some projects that will offer fiscal benefit, but that should not be the aim of pursuing projects.

Mr. Huja said we already have basic infrastructure, which the county does not have. Mr. Shreve said one of the reasons the county looks worse than the city from a cost perspective is because the city has to anticipate their infrastructure needs, whereas the county does not. Counties defer this much more often because they can.

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Ann Marie, 808 Altavista Ave., said she feels that many public forums, such as the Belmont Bridge, or the CAT meetings, include public hearings because they are required, and not because staff actually wants to hear from citizens. She said the Belmont Bridge design forum presenters were not the appropriate people for the situation and were a waste of money. Mr. Chapman grouped marijuana with alcohol and tobacco, and we do not impose the same punishment on adults that we do on children. The Vinegar Hill Cafe should have a permanent installation that talks about where the name came from and what happened in that community.

Mr. Will Sampson, 609 Wine Cellar Cir., said he takes exception with Ms. Galvin's definition of a tax. He said he was disappointed at the way the public comment operated for Matters By The Public.

Ms. Nancy Carpenter, 727 Denali Way, said housing is too expensive, and you are creating a market that is not serviced because the targeted group cannot afford the housing that is being built. She said staff needs to begin a dialogue about service delivery for mental health care.

Mr. Scott Bandy, 1639 Cherry Ave., said Council needs to be sure not to change the Matters by the Public process so that names are drawn out of a fishbowl.

Mr. Norris and Ms. Smith asked that Rivanna River Basin Commission and area collaboration be a component of the utility commission.

Ms. Szakos said Ms. Lena Marie's comment about public feedback was appreciated. This is a work in progress, and Mr. Jones has directed staff to include information about public comment on each report. She said we do not want departments to think this is just a box we have to tick off.

The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Yaiqe Bayfield", is written above a solid horizontal line.

Clerk of Council